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7 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
8 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
9 AT SEATTLE

10 CRAIG WIRELESS SYSTEMS LTD., a
11 Canadian federal corporation; and CRAIG
12 WIRELESS MANITOBA INC., a Canadian
13 federal corporation,

14 Plaintiffs,

15 v.

16 CLEARWIRE LEGACY LLC, a Delaware
17 corporation; and FIXED WIRELESS
18 HOLDINGS, LLC, a Delaware limited
19 liability company,

20 Defendants.

C10-1269Z

ORDER

21 THIS MATTER comes before the Court on defendants' motion for summary
22 judgment, docket no. 42, defendants' motions for partial summary judgment, docket nos. 43
23 and 44, plaintiffs' cross-motion for summary judgment, as amended, docket nos. 50 & 58,
24 and plaintiffs' cross-motion for partial summary judgment, docket no. 51. Having reviewed
25 all papers filed in support of and in opposition to each motion, and having considered the oral
26 arguments of counsel, the Court enters the following Order.

1 **Background**

2 Plaintiffs Craig Wireless Systems Ltd. (“Craig Wireless”) and Craig Wireless
3 Manitoba Inc. (“CW-Manitoba”) allege four claims: (i) for breach of contract, namely the
4 Equipment Lease Agreement; (ii) for breach of contract, namely the Stock Purchase
5 Agreement; (iii) for breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing; and (iv) for
6 unjust enrichment or quantum meruit. First Amended Complaint (docket no. 28).
7 Defendants Clearwire Legacy LLC (“Clearwire Legacy”) and Fixed Wireless Holdings, LLC
8 (“Fixed Holdings”) allege five counterclaims, including a counterclaim for breach of
9 contract. Second Amended Answer and Counterclaims (docket no. 30). The parties’ dispute
10 involves three agreements executed between September 2004 and June 2005, namely (i) the
11 Stock Purchase Agreement, (ii) the Agreement Regarding Manitoba Operations (“ARMO”),
12 and (iii) the Equipment Lease Agreement (“Lease Agreement”).

13 **A. Stock Purchase Agreement**

14 The following entities entered into the Stock Purchase Agreement, which is dated
15 September 30, 2004: (i) Fixed Holdings; (ii) Craig Wireless; (iii) Craig Wireless Nevada
16 Inc. (“CW-Nevada”); and (iv) Craig Wireless Honolulu Inc. (“CW-Honolulu”). *See* Stock
17 Purchase Agreement, Ex. B to Beams Decl., Tab 3 to Defendants’ Factual Record (“DFR”)
18 (docket no. 45-1 at 27-87). At the time, Craig Wireless owned all of the shares of
19 CW-Nevada, and CW-Nevada owned all of the shares of CW-Honolulu.

20 Fixed Holdings is a subsidiary of Clearwire Legacy. Beams Decl. at ¶ 4, Tab 1 to
21 DFR (docket no. 45-1 at 3). Clearwire Legacy is a subsidiary of Clearwire Corporation,
22 which is a “leading provider of wireless broadband services in the United States.” *Id.* at ¶ 3.
23 Clearwire Legacy is the successor-in-interest to Clearwire Corporation, which no longer
24 exists and which was a different entity from the current Clearwire Corporation. *Id.* Fixed
25 Holdings and Clearwire Legacy are defendants in this action, but Clearwire Corporation is
26 not a party.

1 To provide wireless broadband (*e.g.*, internet) services within the United States, an
2 entity must have a spectrum license from the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”)
3 or must lease such license. Hopper Decl. at ¶ 3, Tab 14 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 3). The
4 FCC issues wireless spectrum licenses in a geographic manner. *Id.* Prior to the transaction
5 memorialized in the Stock Purchase Agreement, CW-Honolulu held spectrum licenses for
6 and operated a wireless cable system on the Island of Oahu.

7 Pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, Fixed Holdings purchased from
8 CW-Nevada all outstanding shares of the capital stock of CW-Honolulu for \$10 million.
9 Stock Purchase Agreement at Recital B & §§ 2.1 & 2.2 (docket no. 45-1 at 31, 37). Prior to
10 the closing date for the transaction, Fixed Holdings loaned \$10 million to CW-Nevada, and
11 at the time of closing, the purchase price was paid by means of a credit against the
12 outstanding balance of the loan. *Id.* at § 2.3 (docket no. 45-1 at 37). Closing was contingent
13 on *inter alia* approval from the FCC and execution of “Investment Documents” related to a
14 joint venture “to develop wireless spectrum opportunities in Manitoba, Canada.” *Id.* at p. 4
15 (defining “Investment Documents” & “Joint Venture”) & §§ 7.1 & 7.3(e) (docket no. 45-1 at
16 34, 52-54).

17 **B. Agreement Regarding Manitoba Operations**

18 The ARMO was among the Investment Documents referenced in the Stock Purchase
19 Agreement. The ARMO, dated September 30, 2004, was between the following entities:
20 (i) Craig Wireless; (ii) CW-Nevada; (iii) CW-Honolulu; and (iv) Clearwire Corporation,
21 predecessor of Clearwire Legacy. *See* ARMO, Ex. G to Beams Decl., Tab 8 to DFR (docket
22 no. 45-1 at 102-27). The ARMO envisioned that a new corporation (“Opco”) would be
23 created, that 85% of Opco’s shares would be owned by Manalta Investment Company Ltd.
24 (“Manalta”), and that 15% of Opco’s shares would be owned by Clearwire Corporation, now
25 Clearwire Legacy. *Id.* at § 1.1 (docket no. 45-1 at 102-03). The consideration for the 15%
26 interest in Opco was execution of the Lease Agreement, an unexecuted copy of which is

1 attached as an exhibit to the ARMO, as well as a Roaming Agreement, which is further
2 defined in Article 2 of the ARMO. See id. at § 1.1 & Ex. 2 (docket no. 45-1 at 102-03,
3 111-27).

4 The ARMO provides that, “[i]n the event that the Equipment . . . is not delivered to
5 Opco in accordance with the Equipment Lease Agreement, then Opco shall not be obliged to
6 issue shares to Clearwire Corporation [now Clearwire Legacy] or its affiliate, and may retract
7 such shares if already issued.” Id. at § 1.1 (docket no. 45-1 at 103). The new corporation
8 contemplated by the ARMO (Opco), was initially named “6311458 Canada Ltd.,” but it later
9 became CW-Manitoba, one of the plaintiffs in this action.

10 **C. Equipment Lease Agreement**

11 Also among the Investment Documents contemplated in the Stock Purchase
12 Agreement was the Lease Agreement dated June 30, 2005, which was executed by the
13 following entities: (i) Clearwire Corporation, predecessor of Clearwire Legacy (“Lessor”);
14 and (ii) 6311458 Canada Ltd., predecessor of CW-Manitoba (“Lessee”). See Lease
15 Agreement, Ex. A to Beams Decl., Tab 2 to DFR (docket no. 45-1 at 8-25); see also Beams
16 Decl. at ¶ 5 (docket no. 45-1 at 3). The Lease Agreement recites that

17 the Lessee has agreed to issue shares to the Lessor representing fifteen percent
18 (15%) of its total outstanding shares of capital stock (the “Shares”) in partial
19 consideration for the Lessor using commercially reasonable efforts to arrange
20 for the execution of a roaming agreement . . . [and] the Lessor has agreed, in
21 partial consideration for the issue of the Shares, to enter into this Lease
22 Agreement.

23 Lease Agreement, Introduction (docket no. 45-1 at 8); see id. at ¶ 9 (“The consideration for
24 the Lease Agreement by Lessor is the issuance of the Shares.”) (docket no. 45-1 at 14).

25 The Lease Agreement defines “Equipment” as:

26 NextNet Expedience Base Stations . . . together with all replacement parts,
additions and accessories incorporated therein or affixed thereto including,
without limitation, any software that is a component or integral part of, or is
included or used in connection with, any Item of Equipment, but with respect
to such software, only to the extent of the Lessor’s interest therein, if any.

1 Id. at ¶ 4 (docket no. 45-1 at 11); see id. (“Item of Equipment” means “each item of the
2 Equipment” and “NextNet” means “NextNet Wireless, Inc.”) (docket no. 45-1 at 11-12).
3 Expedience is only one type of base station. See Hopper Decl. at ¶ 6 (docket no. 45-2 at 4-
4 5). A base station contains hardware that facilitates wireless communication. Id. at ¶ 4
5 (docket no. 45-2 at 3-4). Expedience systems are manufactured by a single company (i.e.,
6 NextNet, at the time of the Lease Agreement), but competing and incompatible base stations
7 using WiMAX technology are provided by several different entities. Id. at ¶ 6 (docket no.
8 45-2 at 4-5).

9 Under the Lease Agreement, the leased Equipment was to be delivered “from time to
10 time” as “needed” for “deployment in Manitoba.” Lease Agreement at ¶ 1(c) (docket
11 no. 45-1 at 9). Lessee was contractually prohibited from using, or permitting the use of, the
12 Equipment “anywhere other than in Manitoba,” provided that, upon the sale of Lessee or
13 substantially all of its assets, the Equipment could be used “outside of North America.” Id. at
14 ¶ 1(d); see also id. at ¶ 10 (docket no. 45-1 at 14) (“Except in connection with maintenance
15 and repair, the Equipment shall not [be] removed from the Permitted Territory.”). Moreover,
16 absent Lessor’s prior written consent, Lessee could not “ASSIGN, TRANSFER, PLEDGE,
17 HYPOTHECATE OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF THIS LEASE, THE EQUIPMENT, OR ANY INTEREST
18 THEREIN,” except to secure obligations to bona fide third party lenders. Id. at ¶ 15(a) (docket
19 no. 45-1 at 16).

20 The term of the Equipment Lease Agreement was five years, with Lessor having a
21 right to renew for up to five additional one-year terms. Id. at ¶ 8 (docket no. 45-1 at 14).
22 Lessor did not exercise this option, and the Equipment Lease Agreement expired on either
23 June 30 or July 1, 2010. Upon the expiration of the Equipment Lease Agreement, Lessee had
24 the right to purchase the Equipment for \$1.00, id., but because no Equipment had been
25 delivered to Lessee, Lessee was unable to invoke this provision.

1 The Equipment subject to the Lease Agreement was to have a maximum aggregate
2 value of \$5 million, adjusted for *inter alia* the interest on the loan made under the Stock
3 Purchase Agreement by Fixed Holdings to CW-Nevada. *Id.* at ¶ 1(b) (docket no. 45-1 at
4 8-9). The parties agree that the accrued interest on the \$10 million loan was \$450,000.
5 Amended Complaint at ¶ 13 (docket no. 28); Second Amended Answer and Counterclaims at
6 ¶ 13 (docket no. 30). Thus, Lessor's obligation under the Lease Agreement was limited to
7 Equipment worth a total of \$4.55 million. Lessor's "wholesale" cost to provide Equipment
8 with an aggregate retail value of \$4.55 million was only \$2.5 million, which is the value the
9 parties ascribed to the 15% share of CW-Manitoba. *See* Beams Decl. at ¶ 8 (docket no. 45-1
10 at 4-5).

11 The value of Equipment was to be determined "in good faith by Lessor, based on the
12 list prices at which such Equipment is sold to similarly situated purchasers of such
13 Equipment by NextNet." Lease Agreement at ¶ 1(b) (docket no. 45-1 at 8-9). The number
14 of NextNet Expedience Base Stations comprising the Equipment subject to lease was to be
15 determined "based on NextNet's list prices for the base stations in effect at the time of the
16 Equipment Order." *Id.* at ¶ 4 (docket no. 45-1 at 11) (defining "Equipment"). The
17 Equipment was to be leased "as is," and Lessee was to bear all responsibility, at its own
18 expense, for keeping the Equipment in good repair, and all risks, if any, of defects in or
19 unfitness of the Equipment. *Id.* at ¶¶ 2(b) & 12 (docket no. 45-1 at 9-10, 15). Lessor,
20 however, was required to assign to Lessee, upon delivery of Equipment, the limited warranty
21 from the Supplier (NextNet or its successor), a sample of which is shown in Exhibit A to the
22 Lease Agreement. *Id.* at ¶ 2(a) (docket no. 45-1 at 9). The NextNet warranty guaranteed
23 repair or replacement of any component with a defect caused by "faulty materials and/or
24 workmanship," if such component was returned to NextNet within two (2) years from the
25 ship date. *Id.* at Ex. A (docket no. 45-1 at 24-25).

1 **D. Performance or Breach**

2 At the time the Lease Agreement was executed, Clearwire owned NextNet. Beams
3 Decl. at ¶ 8 (docket no. 45-1 at 4-5). Approximately a year later, NextNet was sold to
4 Motorola.¹ *Id.* Sometime after NextNet was acquired by Motorola, CW-Manitoba
5 transmitted an Equipment Order requesting *inter alia* eighty-five (85) Motorola WiMAX
6 base stations priced at \$45,000 each. Purchase Order No. 4252 (Dec. 6, 2007), Ex. B to
7 Hopper Decl., Tab 16 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 11); *see also* Lease Agreement at
8 ¶¶ 6(a)-(g) (docket no. 45-1 at 12-14) (regarding the method for ordering Equipment). No
9 Motorola WiMAX base stations were delivered. In the following year, CW-Manitoba issued
10 a replacement Equipment Order for various components of Expedience systems, rather than
11 the previously requested WiMAX base stations. Purchase Order No. 4252 (Dec. 31, 2008),
12 Ex. D to Hopper Decl., Tab 18 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 16). This Equipment Order was
13 revised three more times. Purchase Order No. 4252 (Jan. 13, 2009), Ex. E to Hopper Decl.,
14 Tab 19 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 18); Purchase Order No. 4252 (Jan. 21, 2009), Ex. F to
15 Hopper Decl., Tab 20 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 20); Purchase Order No. 4252 (Mar. 16,
16 2009), Ex. G to Hopper Decl., Tab 21 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 22). The final version of
17 the Equipment Order, dated March 16, 2009, requested *inter alia* eighteen (18) Expedience
18 base stations at a unit price of \$1,800 and indicated that all equipment was “in refurbished
19 condition bearing 1 year warranty.” Tab 21 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 22); *see also* Ex. G
20 to T.B. Craig Decl. (docket no. 54-3) (e-mails regarding Purchase Order No. 4252). Via e-
21 mail dated June 8, 2009, CW-Manitoba cancelled the Equipment Order. Ex. H to Hopper
22 Decl., Tab 22 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 24).

23
24 _____
25 ¹ Exactly which Clearwire entity owned NextNet, and exactly which Motorola entity purchased NextNet,
26 remains unclear. While this case has been pending, however, a company called Motorola Solutions came
into existence and assumed the assets of NextNet. *See* Clark Dep. at 9:23-12:24, Ex. J to Schachter Decl.
(docket nos. 53-1 & 59). In April 2011, Motorola Solutions was acquired by Nokia Siemens Networks. *Id.*
at 9:23-24 & 10:21-12:1.

1 On November 18, 2009, CW-Manitoba placed an Equipment Order for twenty-four
2 (24) different items of varying quantities and unit prices, totaling a little more than \$4.85
3 million.² Ex. I to Hopper Decl., Tab 23 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 29). Clearwire Legacy
4 offered to fill the Equipment Order by supplying used or refurbished Expedience base
5 stations. T.B. Craig Decl. at ¶ 58 (docket no. 54 at 14). Clearwire Legacy also proposed an
6 equivalent value of Samsung WiMax base stations. *Id.* at ¶ 60. CW-Manitoba rejected both
7 tenders, asserting that the proffered items were nonconforming goods. *Id.* at ¶¶ 59 & 60.

8 On April 1, 2010, CW-Manitoba issued a notice that a special meeting of shareholders
9 would occur on April 26, 2010, at which approval would be sought for the sale of its
10 spectrum licenses to Inukshuk Wireless Partnership (“Inukshuk”). Ex. J to T.B. Craig Decl.
11 (docket no. 54-4 at 5-6). The gross income from the sale, which closed in August 2010, was
12 \$24.8 million. *Id.*; *see also* Ex. L to T.B. Craig Decl. (docket no. 54-4 at 22). The parties
13 have stipulated that Clearwire Legacy’s 15% share of the net proceeds is not less than
14 \$2,557,303.25 (in Canadian funds). *See* Ex. P to Clark Decl., Tab 44 to DFR (docket no. 62
15 at 38-39); *compare* Ex. J to T.B. Craig Decl. (docket no. 54-4 at 4) (calculating the net pro
16 rata amount as \$2,629,638).

17 On the date the transaction with Inukshuk closed, August 6, 2010, CW-Manitoba
18 transmitted to Clearwire Legacy a notice of share retraction. Exs. K & L to T.B. Craig Decl.
19 (docket no. 54-4 at 19-20, 22). The notice indicated that, “pursuant to the failure of
20

21 ² According to Scott Hopper, former Senior Vice President of Corporate Development and current consultant
22 for Clearwire Corporation, the final Equipment Order requests items other than the NextNet Expedience base
23 stations contemplated in the Lease Agreement. Hopper Decl. at ¶¶ 2 & 8 (docket no. 45-2 at 2-3, 5). The
24 final Equipment Order is divided into three sections: (1) wireless base station components (totaling
25 \$2,801,440); (2) data processing and authentication (valued at \$718,300); and (3) customer premises
26 equipment (“CPE”) (equaling \$1,332,500). Tab 23 to DFR (docket no. 45-2 at 29). Defendants contend that
plaintiffs have conceded that CPE does not constitute Equipment under the Lease Agreement, citing Thomas
Boyd Craig’s deposition (Tab 36 to DFR at 125:20-126:5, docket no. 45-3 at 94-95), and they indicate that
whether data processing and authentication items qualify as Equipment is an issue to be settled by further
motion or at trial. In light of the Court’s ruling that retraction of shares is the exclusive remedy for any
breach of the Lease Agreement, the Court need not and does not address whether plaintiffs’ damages would
be limited to the value of non-CPE items listed in the Equipment Order dated November 18, 2009.

1 Clearwire Corporation (‘Clearwire’) to deliver Equipment . . . to the undersigned in
2 accordance with the terms of the Equipment Lease Agreement, pursuant to Section 1.1 of the
3 Agreement Regarding Manitoba Operations . . . and applicable law, the 150 Class A common
4 shares . . . issued to and held by Clearwire in the capital of the undersigned have been
5 retracted and cancelled.” Ex. K to T.B. Craig Decl. No portion of the proceeds from the sale
6 of spectrum licenses to Inukshuk was paid to Clearwire Legacy.

7 **E. Pending Motions**

8 With respect to the pending motions, plaintiffs take the position that the “real”
9 transaction was a \$15-million sale of CW-Honolulu, with \$10 million paid in cash and
10 \$5 million paid in Equipment as defined in the Lease Agreement. Defendants counter that
11 the transaction at issue had two separate parts, one effecting a \$10-million sale of
12 CW-Honolulu, and the other involving a joint venture whereby shares were exchanged for
13 leased Equipment of comparable wholesale value. With their divergent views in mind, the
14 parties have categorized their motions into three groups, namely (i) the merits of the various
15 claims and counterclaims, (ii) limitations on damages, and (iii) lack of standing. The Court
16 concludes that a different sequence of analysis will more efficiently resolve the matter. The
17 Court will first address whether a breach of the Lease Agreement was a condition precedent
18 to any retraction of shares under the ARMO, and will then turn to the question of whether
19 retraction of shares was the exclusive remedy for any breach of the Lease Agreement. As
20 acknowledged by counsel during oral argument, the Court’s rulings on these issues render
21 most of the parties’ remaining arguments moot.

22 **Discussion**

23 **A. Summary Judgment Standard**

24 The Court shall grant summary judgment if no genuine dispute of material fact exists
25 and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Fed. R. Civ. P. 56(a) (2010).
26 The moving party bears the initial burden of demonstrating the absence of a genuine issue of

1 material fact. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323 (1986). A fact is material if it
2 might affect the outcome of the suit under the governing law. Anderson v. Liberty Lobby,
3 Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248 (1986). In support of its motion for summary judgment, the moving
4 party need not negate the opponent's claim, Celotex, 477 U.S. at 323; rather, the moving
5 party will be entitled to judgment if the evidence is not sufficient for a jury to return a verdict
6 in favor of the opponent, Anderson, 477 U.S. at 249. To survive a motion for summary
7 judgment, the adverse party must present affirmative evidence, which "is to be believed" and
8 from which all "justifiable inferences" are to be favorably drawn. Id. at 255, 257. When the
9 record taken as a whole, could not lead a rational trier of fact to find for the non-moving
10 party, summary judgment is warranted. See, e.g., Beard v. Banks, 548 U.S. 521, 529 (2006).

11 **B. Contract Interpretation under Washington Law**

12 The Stock Purchase Agreement, the ARMO, and the Lease Agreement all contain a
13 choice of law provision indicating that the contract will be governed by and construed in
14 accordance with Washington law. See Stock Purchase Agreement at § 10.6 (docket no. 45-1
15 at 61); ARMO at § 4.6 (docket no. 45-1 at 106); Lease Agreement at ¶ 28 (docket no. 45-1
16 at 22); see also Restatement (Second) of Conflict of Laws § 187(1) (1971) ("The law of the
17 state chosen by the parties to govern their contractual rights and duties will be applied if the
18 particular issue is one which the parties could have resolved by an explicit provision in their
19 agreement directed to that issue.").

20 Washington courts follow the "objective manifestation" theory of contracts. Hearst
21 Commc'ns, Inc. v. Seattle Times Co., 154 Wn.2d 493, 503, 115 P.3d 262 (2005). Under this
22 approach, the focus is on "the objective manifestations of the agreement, rather than on the
23 unexpressed subjective intent of the parties." Id. Words in a contract are assigned their
24 reasonable, "ordinary, usual, and popular" meaning unless the agreement "clearly
25 demonstrates a contrary intent." Id. at 503-04. If the parties' intent can be divined from the
26 actual words within the four corners of the document, extrinsic evidence will not be

1 considered. See id. at 503-04. If the Court must resort to extrinsic evidence to interpret the
2 agreement, it may do so only to determine the meaning of specific words and terms used in
3 the contract, and not to infer an intent “independent of the instrument” or to “vary,
4 contradict, or modify” what was written. Id. at 503; see also id. at 504 (Washington courts
5 “do not interpret what was intended to be written but what was written” (clarifying the
6 holding of Berg v. Hudesman, 115 Wn.2d 657, 801 P.2d 222 (1990))). Extrinsic evidence
7 may consist of testimony concerning the events surrounding the formation of the contract, as
8 well as the subsequent conduct of the parties. Id. at 502 (citing Berg, 115 Wn.2d at 667-68).

9 **C. Interpretation of Retraction Clause**

10 Plaintiffs contend that, under the retraction clause of the ARMO, CW-Manitoba had
11 the unconditional right to retract Clearwire Legacy’s shares. Defendants counter that
12 CW-Manitoba was entitled to retract the shares only if Clearwire Legacy breached the Lease
13 Agreement. The dispute centers on the meaning of the phrase “in accordance with the
14 Equipment Lease Agreement,” which appears in the following provision of the ARMO:

15 In the event that the Equipment . . . is not delivered to Opco in
16 accordance with the Equipment Lease Agreement, then Opco shall not be
17 obliged to issue shares to Clearwire Corporation [now Clearwire Legacy] or its
affiliate, and may retract such shares if already issued.

18 ARMO at § 1.1 (docket no. 45-1 at 103). Plaintiffs propose to ignore the language, while
19 defendants characterize it as ambiguous and suggest that the Court must look to extrinsic
20 evidence to understand it.

21 In interpreting a contract, the Court must give effect to every term “so as not to render
22 any word superfluous.” E.g., Rimov v. Schultz, 162 Wn. App. 274, 282, 253 P.3d 462
23 (2011). Because plaintiffs’ position would nullify the “in accordance” clause, the Court
24 rejects the idea that CW-Manitoba could retract the shares simply because Equipment was
25 not delivered. The Court also disagrees with defendants’ contention that the language is
26 ambiguous. Under the Lease Agreement, before Equipment can be delivered, it must first be
ordered. See Lease Agreement at ¶¶ 6(a)-(g) (docket no. 45-1 at 12-14). Thus, the phrase

1 “Equipment . . . not delivered . . . in accordance with” the Lease Agreement means
2 Equipment ordered by Lessee in the manner set forth in the contract that was not delivered
3 by the means described therein. As so interpreted, this provision requires more than mere
4 non-delivery of Equipment, but less than breach of the Lease Agreement.

5 This reading of the ARMO is consistent with the extrinsic evidence concerning the
6 parties’ negotiations. Three days before the ARMO was executed, counsel for plaintiff Craig
7 Wireless sent an e-mail to counsel for defendant Clearwire Legacy requesting that the Lease
8 Agreement be modified to reflect that “IF CLEARWIRE BREACHES UNDER THE LEASE (I.E. DOES
9 NOT DELIVER THE EQUIPMENT) . . . WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TREAT IT AS A BREACH UNDER THE
10 SUBSCRIPTION AGREEMENT AND THE SHAREHOLDERS AGREEMENT AND POSSIBLY REACQUIRE
11 THE SHARES WHICH HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO CLEARWIRE.” E-mail from Michael Guttormson to
12 Broady Hodder dated September 27, 2004, Ex. I to Beams Decl., Tab 10 to DFR (docket
13 no. 45-1 at 148) (referring to Lease Agreement at ¶ 20, titled “Events of Default;
14 Remedies”). Clearwire Legacy’s attorney responded with a proposal “to address
15 [Mr. Guttormson’s] comment regarding Section 20 [of the Lease Agreement] in the joint
16 venture investment documents.” E-mail from Broady Hodder to Michael Guttormson dated
17 September 28, 2004, Ex. N to Beams Decl., Tab 42 to DFR (docket no. 62 at 31).
18 Mr. Hodder indicated Clearwire Legacy’s willingness “to include a cross-default type
19 provision in the investment documents which would allow the joint venture to take back its
20 shares for any breach as one possible remedy.” *Id.*

21 In response, Craig Wireless’s attorney proposed the following language: “In the event
22 that the equipment . . . is not delivered to Opco, then Opco shall not be obliged to issue
23 shares to Clearwire Corporation or its affiliate, and may retract such shares if already
24 issued.” E-mail from Doug Sigurdson dated September 28, 2004, 10:51 a.m., Ex. J to Beams
25 Decl., Tab 11 to DFR (docket no. 45-1 at 152). Craig Wireless’s attorney requested that this
26 wording be added to the end of Section 1.1 of the ARMO, but indicated that opposing

1 counsel should “feel free to amend” the sentence. Id. Clearwire Legacy’s counsel revised
2 the ARMO along these lines, but added, after the phrase “not delivered to Opco,” the clause
3 “in accordance with the Equipment Lease Agreement.” E-mail from Jay Hull dated
4 September 28, 2004, Ex. J to Beams Decl., Tab 11 to DFR (docket no. 45-1 at 151). Craig
5 Wireless’s attorney agreed to this change. See E-mail from Doug Sigurdson dated September
6 28, 2004, 1:38 p.m., Ex. J to Beams Decl., Tab 11 to DFR (docket no. 45-1 at 151) (“that is
7 perfect”).

8 This sequence of correspondence is consistent with the Court’s understanding that the
9 phrase “in accordance with the Equipment Lease Agreement” has some meaning and cannot
10 be entirely ignored. Craig Wireless expressed a desire for retraction of shares to be a remedy
11 in the event Equipment was not delivered. Clearwire Legacy agreed to a “cross-default type
12 provision,” but suggested that it be placed in the ARMO, as opposed to the Lease Agreement
13 itself. Craig Wireless’s attorney proposed language that provided an unconditional right to
14 retract shares, but Clearwire Legacy’s counsel countered with the “in accordance” clause.
15 Having accepted this phrasing, Craig Wireless assented to something more than mere non-
16 delivery of Equipment as a prerequisite to the retraction of shares. Likewise, having offered
17 “in accordance” language, rather than more explicit terminology like “breach” or “default,”
18 Clearwire Legacy has no basis for arguing that its shares could be forfeited only upon a
19 breach of the Lease Agreement.

20 In light of the Court’s ruling, plaintiffs are entitled to summary judgment as to all of
21 defendants’ counterclaims. CW-Manitoba undisputedly requested Equipment in the manner
22 outlined in the Lease Agreement³ and such Equipment was never delivered. Whether the
23 non-delivery constituted a breach of the Lease Agreement is irrelevant for purposes of

24
25 ³ Although defendants contend that some of the items listed in the Equipment Order dated November 18,
26 2009, were not within the contemplation of the Lease Agreement, they do not advance the position that the
Expedience components requested therein did not qualify as Equipment as defined by the Lease Agreement
or that the way in which such Expedience systems were ordered failed to comport with the procedures
outlined in the parties’ contract.

1 Section 1.1 of the ARMO, and CW-Manitoba was entitled to retract the shares at issue.
2 The Court therefore DISMISSES with prejudice all five of defendants' counterclaims.⁴

3 **D. Retraction Is Exclusive Remedy**

4 CW-Manitoba having already retracted Clearwire Legacy's shares, the question
5 remains whether CW-Manitoba would be entitled to any other or additional remedy if it
6 established that Clearwire Legacy breached the Lease Agreement. Defendants contend that
7 retraction is the exclusive remedy, while plaintiffs argue that they should be allowed to
8 pursue the maximum amount stated in the Lease Agreement, *i.e.*, \$4.55 million.⁵

9 Plaintiffs' position rests on the faulty premise that the "real" deal was a sale of
10 CW-Honolulu for \$15 million, and that, because they never got any Equipment, they did not
11 receive the full purchase price. The Stock Purchase Agreement, which explicitly recites a
12 purchase price of \$10 million, belies plaintiffs' assertion. Stock Purchase Agreement at § 2.2
13 (docket no. 45-1 at 37). Plaintiffs cannot use extrinsic evidence to contradict this provision
14 of the Stock Purchase Agreement. *Hearst*, 154 Wn.2d at 503. Moreover, Clearwire Legacy,
15 the only defendant against whom the claim for breach of the Lease Agreement is asserted,
16 was not a party to the Stock Purchase Agreement,⁶ and Fixed Holdings, the purchaser of

17
18 ⁴ During oral argument, counsel for defendants clarified that defendants are not pursuing a claim that
19 CW-Manitoba failed to follow the proper protocol in retracting Clearwire Legacy's shares, and that
20 defendants' counterclaims would rise or fall on the issue of whether CW-Manitoba had a right to retract the
21 shares absent a breach of the Lease Agreement.

22 ⁵ Even if CW-Manitoba were permitted to recover damages in addition to the retraction of Clearwire
23 Legacy's shares, such damages would be reduced by the value of the retracted shares. Retraction was a
24 remedy for non-delivery of Equipment. *See* ARMO at § 1.1 (docket no. 45-1 at 103). Absent a setoff,
25 damages for non-delivery in breach of the Lease Agreement would constitute double recovery. Thus, having
26 conceded that they cannot prove any incidental or consequential damages, *see* Plaintiffs' Second Cross-
Motion at 2:10-12 (docket no. 51), the most plaintiffs could obtain, were they to prevail on their claims,
would be under \$1.99 million.

⁶ Plaintiffs have identified sections of the Stock Purchase Agreement that they assert were violated by the
alleged breach of the Lease Agreement. As indicated by defendants, these highlighted provisions, namely
Sections 5.1, 5.2, 9.3, and 10.1, do not "come close to showing" that breach of the Lease Agreement was a
violation of the Stock Purchase Agreement. The provisions referenced by plaintiffs consist of warranties
concerning the authority to execute documents, indemnification language, and an integration clause.
Plaintiffs point to no term in the Stock Purchase Agreement that defines breach as failing to deliver

1 CW-Honolulu, was not a party to the Lease Agreement. Finally, the Lease Agreement,
2 which was not contemporaneously executed, but rather bears a date nine months later than
3 the Stock Purchase Agreement, is not an exhibit to the Stock Purchase Agreement, and the
4 Stock Purchase Agreement does not mention the Lease Agreement as part of the
5 consideration, as opposed to a condition precedent,⁷ for the purchase of CW-Honolulu. *See*
6 Stock Purchase Agreement at §§ 7.2 & 7.3 (docket no. 45-1 at 53-54). Thus, plaintiffs’
7 “real” deal theory is rejected as a matter of law.⁸

8 Instead, the contracts reflect a two-part transaction, in which CW-Honolulu was sold
9 for \$10 million,⁹ and shares in CW-Manitoba were issued in exchange for Equipment to be
10 leased for five years and then purchased for \$1. The latter portion of the business
11 arrangement was memorialized in the ARMO and the Lease Agreement, which the parties
12 agree must be interpreted together.¹⁰ When read together, the Lease Agreement and the

13 _____
14 Equipment under the Lease Agreement, which is not surprising given that Clearwire Legacy is not a party to
the Stock Purchase Agreement.

15 ⁷ Notably, the sole condition precedent runs in favor of defendant Fixed Holdings, not plaintiffs. One of the
16 prerequisites to the obligation of Fixed Holdings to consummate the purchase of CW-Honolulu was the
17 execution of the Investment Documents, including the Lease Agreement. Stock Purchase Agreement at
§ 7.3(e) (docket no. 45-1 at 54). No similar requirement is enumerated among the conditions precedent to
the seller’s (CW-Nevada’s) performance. *Id.* at § 7.2 (docket no. 45-1 at 53).

18 ⁸ For this reason, plaintiff Craig Wireless, which was not a party to the Lease Agreement, cannot assert a
19 claim for breach of such contract. Plaintiffs’ assertion that Craig Wireless was a third-party beneficiary to
the Lease Agreement rests solely on their mischaracterization of the “real” transaction as a \$15-million sale
20 of CW-Honolulu. Thus, the Court GRANTS defendants’ motion for partial summary judgment as to Craig
Wireless’s lack of standing to assert a claim for breach of the Lease Agreement; Craig Wireless is not a
21 proper plaintiff.

22 ⁹ Plaintiffs make no contention that the \$10 million owed under the Stock Purchase Agreement was not paid,
and they base their claim for breach of the Stock Purchase Agreement entirely on non-delivery of Equipment
23 pursuant to the Lease Agreement. Having concluded that the purchase of CW-Honolulu and the exchange of
shares for leased Equipment were related but separate deals, and that plaintiffs have failed to identify any
24 provision of the Stock Purchase Agreement supporting their claim of breach, the Court GRANTS
defendants’ motion for summary judgment as to plaintiffs’ second cause of action and DISMISSES with
25 prejudice plaintiffs’ claim for breach of the Stock Purchase Agreement.

26 ¹⁰ Both contracts indicate that the shares issued pursuant to the ARMO are consideration for the Lease
Agreement, and an unexecuted copy of the Lease Agreement is attached to the ARMO. ARMO at § 1.1 &
Ex. 2 (docket no. 45-1 at 102 & 111-27); Lease Agreement at Intro. & ¶ 9 (docket no. 45-1 at 8, 14). The

1 ARMO limit CW-Manitoba's remedy to retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares. The Lease
2 Agreement eliminates all remedies for CW-Manitoba,¹¹ but the ARMO indicates that if
3 Equipment is not delivered "in accordance with the Equipment Lease Agreement, then
4 [CW-Manitoba] shall not be obliged to issue shares to Clearwire [Legacy] or its affiliate, and
5 may retract such shares if already issued." ARMO at § 1.1 (docket no. 45-1 at 103). Thus,
6 the sole remedy for non-delivery of the Equipment requested under the Lease Agreement is
7 retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares.

8 Plaintiffs attempt to avoid the waiver set forth in Paragraph 26(a) of the Lease
9 Agreement by arguing that the transaction at issue was a sale, not a lease, and that it was
10 therefore was governed by Article 2, rather than Article 2A, of the Uniform Commercial
11 Code ("UCC"). Plaintiffs' contention ignores Paragraph 2(b) of the Lease Agreement, which
12 also contains a limitation on remedies, but does not rely on any citations to the UCC. Thus,
13 even if the parties effectively negotiated a sale, CW-Manitoba agreed to forego "ANY LOSS,
14 COST OR DAMAGE" associated with "FAILURE OF DELIVERY." Lease Agreement at ¶ 2(b) (docket
15 no. 45-1 at 9-10). Moreover, plaintiffs' suggestion that the transaction was a sale, not a
16 lease, runs contrary to the express provisions of the Lease Agreement. See Lease Agreement
17 at ¶ 1(a) (docket no. 45-1 at 8) ("Lessor hereby leases to Lessee, and Lessee hereby leases
18 from Lessor, the Equipment, subject to and upon the terms set forth herein."); id. at ¶ 13
19 (docket no. 45-1 at 15) ("Upon the expiration or earlier termination of this Lease Agreement,
20 Lessee, at its sole expense, shall assemble and return the Equipment to Lessor by delivering

21 _____
22 ARMO and the Lease Agreement are inextricably linked; the parties could not have entered into one
without executing the other.

23 ¹¹See Lease Agreement at ¶ 2(b) (docket no. 45-1 at 9-10) ("EXCEPT FOR THE REPRESENTATIONS,
24 WARRANTIES AND COVENANTS OF THE LESSOR EXPRESSLY SET FORTH HEREIN, IN NO EVENT SHALL LESSOR BE
25 LIABLE FOR ANY INDIRECT, SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (WHETHER UNDER THE UCC OR
26 OTHERWISE), INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY LOSS, COST OR DAMAGE TO LESSEE OR OTHERS ARISING
FROM ANY OF THE FOREGOING MATTERS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, DEFECTS, NEGLIGENCE, DELAYS,
FAILURE OF DELIVERY OR NON-PERFORMANCE OF THE EQUIPMENT."); see also id. at ¶ 26(a) (docket no. 45-1
at 21) (Lessee "WAIVES ANY AND ALL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES CONFERRED UPON A LESSEE BY SECTIONS
2A-508 THROUGH 2A-522 OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE.").

1 such Equipment to a location in the Permitted Territory specified by Lessor.”); *id.* at ¶ 15(a)
2 (docket no. 45-1 at 16) (“EXCEPT AS SET FORTH BELOW, WITHOUT LESSOR’S PRIOR WRITTEN
3 CONSENT, LESSEE SHALL NOT . . . ASSIGN, TRANSFER, PLEDGE, HYPOTHECATE OR OTHERWISE
4 DISPOSE OF THIS LEASE, THE EQUIPMENT OR ANY INTEREST THEREIN . . .”).

5 The ability of CW-Manitoba to later purchase the leased Equipment did not render the
6 transaction a sale. *See id.* at ¶ 8 (docket no. 45-1 at 14) (“Upon expiration of the Term, . . .
7 Lessee shall have the right to purchase the Equipment for a purchase price of \$1.00 . . .”).
8 For the five-year duration of the Lease Agreement, Clearwire Legacy would continue to own
9 all Equipment and could demand its return upon CW-Manitoba’s violation of the contract by,
10 for example, using the Equipment outside the Permitted Territory or failing to keep the
11 Equipment in good repair. *See id.* at ¶ 20(b) (docket no. 45-1 at 17-18) (“Upon the
12 occurrence of an Event of Default, Lessor may do one or more of the following as Lessor in
13 its sole discretion shall elect: . . . (5) demand that Lessee . . . return all Items of Equipment to
14 Lessor . . .”); *see also id.* at ¶ 1(d) (docket no. 45-1 at 9) (“Lessee shall not use, or permit
15 the use, of the Equipment anywhere other than in Manitoba”); *id.* at ¶ 12 (docket no. 45-1 at
16 15) (“Lessee . . . shall keep the Equipment in good repair”). The transaction at issue fits well
17 within the definition of a lease, and does not qualify as a sale. *See* RCW 62A.2A-103(1)(j)
18 (lease means “a transfer of the right to possession and use of goods for a term in return for
19 consideration”); *compare* RCW 62A.2-106(1) (a sale “consists in the passing of title from the
20 seller to the buyer for a price”).

21 Having concluded that the parties’ agreements limit CW-Manitoba’s remedy to the
22 retraction of shares, the Court must address whether this limitation is unconscionable.
23 Whether a limitation on remedies is unconscionable constitutes a question of law. *Torgerson*
24 *v. One Lincoln Tower, LLC*, 166 Wn.2d 510, 517, 210 P.3d 318 (2009). In commercial
25 transactions, provisions excluding remedies are prima facie conscionable and enforceable,
26 and the party attacking a clause bears the burden of showing that it is unconscionable. *Cox v.*

1 Lewiston Grain Growers, Inc., 86 Wn. App. 357, 368, 936 P.2d 1191 (1997). Washington
2 courts review exclusionary clauses for both procedural and substantive unconscionability.
3 Torgerson, 116 Wn.2d at 518-19; see also M.A. Mortenson Co. v. Timberline Software
4 Corp., 140 Wn.2d 568, 585-89, 998 P.2d 305 (2000).

5 Procedural unconscionability is determined in light of the totality of the surrounding
6 circumstances, including the manner in which the parties entered into the contract, whether
7 the parties had a reasonable opportunity to understand the terms of the contract, and whether
8 the important terms were hidden in a maze of fine print. Torgerson, 116 Wn.2d at 518-19;
9 see also Am. Nursery Prods., Inc. v. Indian Wells Orchards, 115 Wn.2d 217, 222, 797 P.2d
10 477 (1990). Substantive unconscionability exists when the contractual provision is “one-
11 sided,” “shocking to the conscience,” “monstrously harsh,” or “exceedingly calloused.”
12 Torgerson, 116 Wn.2d at 519; see M.A. Mortenson, 140 Wn.2d at 586. Such alleged
13 unfairness, however, “must truly stand out.” Torgerson, 116 Wn.2d at 519.

14 In this case, CW-Manitoba does not assert that the exclusionary claim is procedurally
15 unconscionable. The Lease Agreement and ARMO are products of extended negotiations
16 between sophisticated business entities represented by counsel. CW-Manitoba argues only
17 that the limitation to retraction of shares as a remedy is substantively unconscionable. The
18 Court rejects this argument. CW-Manitoba has not offered any evidence to dispute that, at
19 the time the Lease Agreement was executed, Clearwire Legacy’s estimated “wholesale” cost
20 to provide Equipment with an aggregate retail value of \$4.55 million was only \$2.5 million.
21 See Beams Decl. at ¶ 8 (docket no. 45-1 at 4-5). Thus, Clearwire Legacy’s 15% interest in
22 CW-Manitoba had an initial value of \$2.5 million, and by retracting the shares, then
23 undisputedly worth \$2.56 million, CW-Manitoba was effectively restored to its original
24 position. Limiting CW-Manitoba’s remedy to retraction of Clearwire Legacy’s shares is not
25 unconscionable.

1 Even when conscionable, an exclusionary clause may be unenforceable if the limited
2 or exclusive remedy fails of its essential purpose. See RCW 62A.2A-503(2); see also Am.
3 Nursery, 115 Wn.2d at 228; Cox, 86 Wn. App. at 370. A limited or exclusive remedy fails of
4 its essential purpose if it deprives a party of the substantive value of its bargain. Cox, 86 Wn.
5 App. at 370. For example, in Cox, the limited remedy of a refund failed of its essential
6 purpose when, due to a latent defect, the seeds purchased did not produce an adequate crop;
7 because the plaintiff could not have discovered the problem until after planting the seeds and
8 waiting some period of time, a refund of the purchase price did not offer a sufficient remedy.
9 Id.; see also Marr Enters., Inc. v. Lewis Refrigeration Co., 556 F.2d 951, 955 (9th Cir. 1977)
10 (indicating that a remedy can be inadequate “when the seller or other party required to
11 provide the remedy, by inaction or its action, causes the remedy to fail,” as when a seller fails
12 “to replace or repair in a reasonably prompt and non-negligent manner”).

13 The retraction of shares as an exclusive remedy does not fail of its essential purpose.
14 By retracting Clearwire Legacy’s shares (\$2.56 million), CW-Manitoba recouped more than
15 half of the unexpended credit under the Lease Agreement (\$4.55 million), almost all of the
16 value of the base station components requested in the Equipment Order at issue
17 (\$2.8 million), and more than the initial worth of the shares (\$2.5 million).¹² To the extent
18 that non-delivery of Equipment forced CW-Manitoba to sell its spectrum licenses or
19 precipitated a lower purchase price for them, thereby affecting the adequacy of share
20 retraction as a remedy, then CW-Manitoba, as the party challenging the exclusionary clause,
21 had the burden to make such showing. CW-Manitoba has not provided a basis for deeming
22
23

24 ¹² Plaintiffs do not contest any of these figures. They have stipulated to the value of the retracted shares and
25 to the balance due under the Lease Agreement. They do not dispute the prices for the Expedience
26 components listed in the order placed in November 2009, and they have provided no evidence to refute the
wholesale cost of Equipment with an aggregate retail value of \$4.55 million, which was used to calculate the
initial worth of 15% of CW-Manitoba’s shares. Thus, plaintiffs cannot credibly contend that the retraction
of shares was an insufficient remedy.

1 the remedy limitation unenforceable, and thus, the Court GRANTS defendants' motion for
2 partial summary judgment and HOLDS that retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares is
3 CW-Manitoba's exclusive remedy. Having reached this conclusion, the Court concludes that
4 plaintiffs' first and third causes of action are moot and DISMISSES with prejudice plaintiffs'
5 claims for breach of the Lease Agreement and breach of the duties of good faith and fair
6 dealing.¹³

7 **E. Unjust Enrichment or Quantum Meruit**

8 The Court's ruling concerning CW-Manitoba's limited contractual remedy does not
9 resolve whether plaintiffs may pursue a separate claim for unjust enrichment or quantum
10 meruit. Defendants have moved to dismiss this claim because the matters at issue were
11 subject to written contracts. Defendants' motion has merit.

12 A claim for unjust enrichment is based on the doctrine of implied contract.
13 MacDonald v. Hayner, 43 Wn. App. 81, 85, 715 P.2d 519 (1986). A contract may be
14 implied either in fact or in law. A contract implied in fact is based on the parties' conduct
15

16 ¹³ Even if the Court were to reach the opposite result concerning the limitation on plaintiffs' remedy for
17 breach of the Lease Agreement, the Court would not decide the pending cross-motions for summary
18 judgment in favor of plaintiffs. Although plaintiffs point to various provisions of the Lease Agreement for
19 the proposition that Clearwire Legacy breached by tendering refurbished rather than new Equipment, they do
20 not dispute that the contract is silent on the subject or that the parties never expressly negotiated about the
21 matter. Moreover, during the latter part of the five-year term of the Lease Agreement, CW-Manitoba
22 transmitted an explicit request for refurbished base stations, arguably acknowledging that used Equipment
23 was conforming under the Lease Agreement. Plaintiffs proffer as an explanation that the employee who
24 placed the Equipment Order was unaware of the terms of the Lease Agreement. See T.B. Craig Decl. at
25 ¶¶ 46-49 (docket no. 54 at 11-12). This extrinsic evidence concerning the parties' course of dealing raises
26 factual issues that preclude summary judgment. The Court is likewise unpersuaded by defendants' asserted
excuse for nonperformance under the Lease Agreement. The UCC envisions that anticipatory repudiation
may be communicated by one contracting party to the other party, which may then take appropriate actions.
See RCW 62A.2A-402. Defendants, however, base their motion for summary judgment on the theory that
anticipatory repudiation may be inferred from a later discovered intent to breach. Defendants cite no
authority in which an unannounced subjective intent to repudiate, as opposed to actions or conduct
manifesting such intent, was successfully interposed as a defense to a breach of contract claim. Moreover,
even if defendants' legal theory were viable, they have failed to demonstrate an absence of factual dispute as
to whether plaintiffs' purpose in attempting to procure the Expedience base stations at issue was to
improperly trade them to Motorola for WiMax systems. Thus, if plaintiffs could pursue a remedy other than
retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares, their claim for breach of the Lease Agreement could not be resolved
by the Court short of trial.

1 rather than their expressions of assent, while a contract implied in law (a quasi contract)
2 arises from an implied duty of the parties, which does not rest on consent or agreement, but
3 rather on the prevention of unjust enrichment. *Id.* A party to a valid express contract,
4 however, may not simply disregard such agreement and bring an action on a theory of
5 implied contract relating to the same matter governed by the contract. *Id.* at 85-86 (citing
6 *Chandler v. Wash. Toll Bridge Auth.*, 17 Wn.2d 591, 604, 137 P.2d 97 (1943)); *see also*
7 *United States ex rel. Walton Techn., Inc. v. Weststar Eng'g, Inc.*, 290 F.3d 1199, 1204 (9th
8 Cir. 2002) (applying Washington law). Plaintiffs do not dispute that Washington courts
9 preclude unjust enrichment claims premised on transactions concerning which the parties
10 entered into express contracts.¹⁴

11 In contrast to a claim for unjust enrichment, a claim for quantum meruit arises in the
12 context of an express contract. Quantum meruit is a remedy available when “substantial
13 change not within contemplation of the contracting parties occurs with a resulting benefit to
14 one party and expense to the other.” *MacDonald*, 43 Wn. App. at 84-85 (citing *Heaton v.*
15 *Imus*, 93 Wn.2d 249, 254, 608 P.2d 631 (1980)). With respect to their claim for quantum
16 meruit, plaintiffs have not identified any unanticipated substantial change that led to the
17 damages being sought. The sale of NextNet to Motorola was not unforeseeable, and the
18 parties provided for such change in defining the term “Supplier.” Lease Agreement at ¶ 4
19 (docket no. 45-1 at 12). The non-delivery of Equipment was likewise considered when the
20 parties negotiated the contracts at issue, as evidenced by the provision in the ARMO
21 allowing CW-Manitoba to retract Clearwire Legacy’s shares. Although the tender of used or
22 refurbished as opposed to new Equipment was apparently not envisioned, plaintiffs do not
23 explain how a dispute over whether certain goods are conforming constitutes a “substantial
24 change” within the meaning of the quantum meruit doctrine. Plaintiffs must be held to their

25
26 ¹⁴ Plaintiffs’ discussion of the issue indicates merely that the Court has discretion to craft appropriate remedies and recites the elements of unjust enrichment. *See* Plaintiffs’ Second Cross-Motion at 18-19 (docket no. 51).

1 bargain, and the Court GRANTS defendants' motion for summary judgment as to plaintiffs'
2 fourth cause of action and DISMISSES with prejudice plaintiffs' claim for unjust enrichment
3 or quantum meruit.

4 **Conclusion**

5 For the foregoing reasons, the Court ORDERS:

6 (1) Defendants' motion for partial summary judgment as to Craig Wireless's lack
7 of standing, docket no. 44, is GRANTED; Craig Wireless's claim for breach of the Lease
8 Agreement is DISMISSED with prejudice;

9 (2) Defendants' motion for partial summary judgment regarding damages, docket
10 no. 43, is GRANTED in part; plaintiffs' remedy for any breach of the Lease Agreement is
11 limited to the retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares in CW-Manitoba, which has already
12 been exercised; to the extent defendants seek to otherwise limit plaintiffs' damages, their
13 motion is STRICKEN as moot;

14 (3) Defendants' motion for summary judgment on the merits, docket no. 42, is
15 GRANTED in part; plaintiffs' second cause of action for breach of the Stock Purchase
16 Agreement¹⁵ and fourth cause of action for unjust enrichment or quantum meruit are
17 DISMISSED with prejudice; to the extent defendants' motion is premised on anticipatory
18 repudiation as a defense, their motion is STRICKEN as moot; defendants' motion on the
19 merits is otherwise DENIED;

20 (4) Plaintiffs' cross-motion for summary judgment concerning damages and
21 standing, docket no. 51, is GRANTED in part; CW-Manitoba was entitled to retract
22 Clearwire Legacy's shares upon a request for Equipment in the manner set forth in the Lease

23
24 ¹⁵ Defendants' motion originally rested on the theory that Clearwire Legacy's performance was excused by
25 plaintiffs' inferred anticipatory repudiation. Defendants' motion transformed after plaintiffs, in their cross-
26 motion on damages and standing, identified sections of the Stock Purchase Agreement that they believe were
violated by the alleged breach of the Lease Agreement. Although the manner of briefing this issue was not
traditional, the Court is satisfied that the parties had notice and a full opportunity to be heard, and that the
issue of whether plaintiffs' claim for breach of the Stock Purchase Agreement has merit was ripe for the
Court's consideration.

1 Agreement and non-delivery of such Equipment, and a breach of the Lease Agreement was
2 not a condition precedent to the retraction of Clearwire Legacy's shares; defendants'
3 counterclaims are DISMISSED with prejudice; plaintiffs' cross-motion regarding damages
4 and standing is otherwise DENIED or STRICKEN as moot;

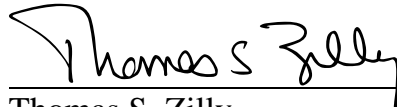
5 (5) Plaintiffs' cross-motion for summary judgment on the merits, as amended,
6 docket nos. 50 & 58, is STRICKEN as moot;

7 (6) In light of the Court's rulings concerning the prerequisites to a proper
8 retraction of shares and the limitation on CW-Manitoba's remedy for breach of the Lease
9 Agreement, plaintiffs' first and third causes of action for breach of the Lease Agreement and
10 breach of the duties of good faith and fair dealing are DISMISSED with prejudice as moot;
11 and

12 (7) The Clerk is DIRECTED to enter judgment consistent with this Order, to send
13 a copy of this Order to all counsel of record, and to CLOSE this case.¹⁶

14 IT IS SO ORDERED.

15 DATED this 9th day of September, 2011.

16
17 
18 Thomas S. Zilly
19 United States District Judge
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21
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23
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25

26 ¹⁶ The parties are discouraged from filing any motions for attorney fees. The Court does not view any party as prevailing, both sides having asserted claims on which they did not recover.